

Although Columbus undertook his epic voyage long ago, his adventurous spirit continues to inspire us. As we reflect on the elements which made this journey one of the finest moments in history, it is fitting that we rededicate ourselves to our search for new horizons, ever mindful of Christopher Columbus and those brave seafarers on the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria.

In tribute to the achievement of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), asked the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 11, 1982, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of Sept. in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventh.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 4963 of September 8, 1982

White Cane Safety Day, 1982

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The white cane symbolizes safety and independence to many thousands of blind and other severely visually handicapped individuals.

It enables them to engage in normal activities of daily living as well as to manage businesses or perform tasks involved in employment with confidence and efficiency.

The white cane serves notice to the nation's drivers to be cautious and to the pedestrians to be courteous and considerate of the special needs of the severely visually handicapped. It may also in a special way be considered an extension of their bodily functions, providing courage, strength, confidence, hope and independence as well as mobility.

To make all Americans more fully aware of the special significance of the white cane and the need for extra care and courtesy when approaching its user, the Congress, by a joint resolution approved October 6, 1964, has authorized the President to proclaim October 15 each year as White Cane Safety Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 15, 1982, as White Cane Safety Day.

I ask all Americans to mark this day with concern and respect for the special needs of the severely visually handicapped and, especially, to note the white cane, in order that our busy streets will be safer for all.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of Sept. in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventh.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 4964 of September 13, 1982

National P.T.A. Membership Month, 1982

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Our best research shows that both the supportive atmosphere parents create at home and the high expectations of motivated teachers will find positive expression in the academic achievements of students.

Within our parent-teacher associations across the Nation, the combined concern of parents and teachers focuses on encouraging excellence in the education of our children. The National Parent Teacher Association, representing over twenty-nine thousand State and local units with more than six million active members, is a volunteer organization that has made substantial contributions to that goal. The ultimate beneficiary is the Nation itself, through enhanced student achievement and a citizenry better prepared for its future.

In recognition of the important contributions made by the National P.T.A., the Congress by joint resolution (Public Law 97-154) has requested the President to issue an appropriate proclamation recognizing October 1982 as "National P.T.A. Membership Month."

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NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the month of October 1982 as "National P.T.A. Membership Month." I invite the Governors of the States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the officials of other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, and the American people to join me in recognizing and encouraging the efforts of the National P.T.A. on behalf of our children, and to observe such month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 13th. day of Sept. in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventh.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 4965 of September 13, 1982

National Employ the Handicapped Week, 1982

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

People throughout our country are working to increase education, training, employment, accessible housing, and recreational opportunities for our disabled citizens.